

Remarks

Applicants thank the Examiner for his careful consideration of the application.

Claims 1, 3 – 22 and 24 - 28 are pending in the application.

Claim Objections

The Examiner objected to claim 28 as failing to conform to the invention as set forth in the remainder of the specification. Applicants have canceled claim 28 in the application.

Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 102

The Examiner rejected claims 11 – 13 and 19 under 35 USC § 102(b) as being anticipated by Weston (US Patent No. 5,434,627) ("Weston"). Applicants have canceled claims 11 – 13 and 19 in the application.

Claim Rejections – 35 USC § 103

The Examiner rejected claims 1, 3, 4 and 9 under 35 USC § 103(a) as being unpatentable over Weston in view of Hermann (US Publication No. 2003 0197674) ("Hermann"). Applicants have canceled claims 1, 3, 4 and 9 in the application.

The Examiner rejected claim 8 under 35 USC § 103(a) as being unpatentable over Weston in view of Hermann and further in view of Daly et al. (US Patent No. 5,987,169) ("Daly"). Applicants have canceled claim 8 in the application.

The Examiner rejected claim 17 under 35 USC § 103(a) as being unpatentable over Weston in view of Daly. Applicants have canceled claim 17 in the application.

The Examiner rejected claim 18 under 35 USC § 103(a) as being unpatentable over Weston in combination with Lee et al. (US Patent No. 5,434,627) ("Lee"). Applicants have canceled claim 18 in the application.

The Examiner rejected claim 20 under 35 USC § 103(a) as being unpatentable over Weston in combination with Berstis (US Patent No. 6,518,948) ("Berstis"). Applicants have canceled claim 20 in the application.

The Examiner rejected claim 21 under 35 USC § 103(a) as being unpatentable over Weston in combination with Yanaka (US Patent No. 6,115,138) ("Yanaka"). Applicants have canceled claim 21 in the application.

The Examiner rejected claims 24 – 27 under 35 USC § 103(a) as being unpatentable over Hamilton in view of Weston. Applicants have canceled claim 24 - 27 in the application.

Allowable Subject Matter

Claims 5 – 7 and 14 – 16 are allowed.

Conclusion

No additional fee is believed to be required for this amendment. However, the undersigned Xerox Corporation attorney hereby authorizes the charging of any necessary fees, other than the issue fee, to Xerox Corporation Deposit Account No. 24-0025. This also constitutes a request for any needed extension of time and authorization to charge all fees therefor to Xerox Corporation Deposit Account No. 24-0025.

A telephone interview is respectfully requested at the number listed below prior to any further Office Action, i.e., if the Examiner has any remaining questions or issues

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to address after this paper. The undersigned will be happy to discuss any further Examiner-proposed amendments as may be appropriate.

Respectfully submitted,

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JMY/rjh